

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT  
PUBLIC SESSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2018  
8:00P.M.**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1.1 Call to Order**

Council President Yeargin called the meeting to order at 7:14p.m.

**1.1.2 Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Eugene W. Grant (Late), Councilmember Charl Jones, Councilmember Hope Love, Councilmember Lamar Maxwell (Absent), Councilmember Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gloria L. Sistrunk, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Weyimi Ayu, Director of Economic Development, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Devan Martin, Chief of Police, Diamond Plater, Council Clerk and Jeannelle Wallace, City Administrator,

**1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:**

The invocation was given by Councilmember Kelly Porter

**1.1.4. Approval of Agenda**

It was motioned by Councilmember Sistrunk and seconded by Councilmember Love to approve the Public Session Agenda. The motion carried and the agenda was unanimously approved by the Council.

**1.1.5. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- It was motioned by Councilmember Sistrunk and seconded by Councilmember Jones to approve the Special Session Minutes meeting minutes for Tuesday, March 6, 2018. The motion carried and the minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Jones to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Monday, March 12, 2018. The motion carried and the minutes were unanimously approved.

- It was motioned by Councilmember Sistrunk and seconded by Councilmember Love to approve the Public Session meeting minutes for Monday, March 12, 2018. The motion carried and the minutes were unanimously approved.

## **2. PRESENTATIONS:**

### **2.1. None**

## **3. LEGISLATION**

### **3.1. Ordinance O-18-08 Amendment of Chapter 67-Property**

**Maintenance** was introduced and read by the City Clerk on Monday, April 2, 2018 and the second reading was conducted on Monday, April 9, 2018. It was motioned by Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Love to approve Ordinance O-18-08. The motion carried was unanimously approved.

### **3.2. Ordinance O-18-09 Amendment of Chapter 63-Building**

**Construction** was introduced and read by the City Clerk on Monday, April 2, 2018 and the second reading was conducted on Monday, April 9, 2018. It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Love to approve Ordinance O-18-09. The motion carried was unanimously approved.

**3.3. Ordinance O-18-10 Enacting a New Chapter 15-Creation and Establishment of The Seat Pleasant Investment Corporation Entity** was introduced and read by the City Clerk on Monday, April 2, 2018 and the second reading was conducted on Monday, April 9, 2018. It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Jones to approve Ordinance O-18-10. The motion carried in the following manner.  
FOR: Jones, Love, Porter and Yeargin AGAINST: McCarthy and Sistrunk

ABSTAIN: None

**3.4. Ordinance O-18-11 Creation of the Seat Pleasant Economic and Community Development Corporation** was introduced and read by the City Clerk on Monday, April 2, 2018 and the second reading was conducted on Monday, April 9, 2018. It was motioned by Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Love to approve Ordinance O-18-11. The motion carried in the following manner.

FOR: Jones, Love, Porter, Sistrunk and Yeargin  
AGAINST: McCarthy  
ABSTAIN: None

#### **4. REPORTS:**

##### **4.1. Council President Report**

- Council President Yeargin stated that the report for the month of March 2018 has been included in the paperless agenda packet.

##### **4.2. Mayor Eugene W. Grant**

- Mayor Grant stated that he is pleased with the direction we are all going on as a collective effort to everyone. The City of Seat Pleasant has received a considerate amount of recognition due to the efforts of Smart Cities.
- Mayor Grant stated that he has spoken around the country and it is interesting as to how the innovation impacts many. Mayor Grant stated that this will take some time to grow, and it is an investment and we are on the road. We are still cleaning up some of the poor management from the past, and we have some employees work and some do not work. We had to make changes, and we changed Community Services to Public Engagement. We are responsible for improving the conditions of our city, and you will now see Public Works working on the week-ends to ensure that our streets are cleaned. We have a lot of visitors coming into the city on week-ends for church services. We are testing to see if the week-end schedule will work. We do our best, and put our foot forward to see if the changes will work. We are happy with what we are doing, and we aren't always pleased with the outcomes.
- We have a-lot meetings, internally and externally with outside agencies. We have a-lot hours being put-in that some aren't getting paid for.
- Mayor Grant stated that he was the only elected official to present at the IBM Think out of six hundred presenters. There is a lot of talk and buzz going on about Seat Pleasant. IBM is currently working on a commercial for Seat Pleasant. They will have camera crews at Seat Pleasant Day. The story board has been written and will be incorporated into the commercial. Last week in Ann Arbor, MI Washtenaw University invited him out to speak on Smart Cities.

- Ms. Lipford had received two cities that are interested in purchasing subscription from Seat Pleasant. We are still working out the kinks of CGS.
- We are giving a report this year, as an update aligning with the UN sustainable goals. The United Nations is paying for Mayor Grant to attend the conference next month to discuss the digital transformation. We have garnered a lot of attention for the work that we had begun.
- The City Administrator and the Mayor have different staff members attending conferences. We will have an invigorating and engaging experience with the exhibit.
- Councilmember Sistrunk stated that the passport was what piqued the interest of the participant, and we have a large room reserved this year. Mayor Grant stated that we will have a larger room.
- Councilmember McCarthy inquired if the funding request from the County could be used for outside governments? Mayor Grant stated that the money can only be used in the State of Maryland, as it Prince George's County funding.
- Councilmember Sistrunk inquired if the Council can get an explanation on the subscription if someone will ask them questions.
- Mayor Grant thanked the City Council for passing of the Ordinance O-18-10 and Ordinance O-18-11. We will no longer have a Code Enforcement Office in Seat Pleasant. They will be under the Economic Development and they will be the Neighborhood and Commercial Compliance Division, and the employees can reapply, but it will be abolished in 30 days.
- Councilmember Love wanted to know if there will be a meeting on the transition team? Mayor Grant stated that there will be a meeting with them. Mr. Ayu stated that the new division will be a complete change in attire, and they will be inspectors, and the uniforms will be black pants, with polo shirts with the name NCC Inspectors.
- Mayor Grant stated the new Seat Pleasant Investment Corporation Entity is primarily to invest funds on behalf of the City. Seat Pleasant Government cannot invest funds, as we are not a for profit government. The majority shareholder will be Seat Pleasant residents. We are here to make affordable housing for the residents. We do not want to fund the CGS or subscriptions with Seat Pleasant tax dollars.
- Mr. Ayu stated that Ms. Rhoda is doing a fine job at getting grants for the City. However, there are thousands of grants that the SPICE can obtain on behalf of the City.

- Mayor Grant clarified his response on the money from the Governor will have its own cost center, as we cannot co-mingle the funds.
- Chief Martin stated that things are going well in the Police Department and the App will allow the city to push notifications to residents, as well as on our Social Media pages.
- Chief stated that when the weather gets warm, crime intends to go up. The department has a new fleet, and the pick-up truck assist with the Special Operations on the Speed Camera side. The truck is used to move equipment. The K-9 program is going great, and the officers are away in training. The program will be split with patrol, and the K-9 will assist with recoveries for drugs, and tracking critical missing.
- The drones program is not a traditional program, as we are in the first phase. We are getting outfitted the drones van to share on the computer. We are working on an MOU with other departments. We are sending someone out to flight school. The training is paid for from the Fender Base Program. The City sits on the board for the interoperable board for the drones and flight school. We will be adding night time flying to the program in July.
- The explorer program will be announced in 30 days.

#### **4.3. City Administrator Report-Jeannelle Wallace, City Administrator Report**

- Mrs. Wallace stated that the Annual Seat Pleasant Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 5, 2018 and this is slated to be one of best Annual Seat Pleasant Day. We have three marching bands and we are expecting a large turn-out.
- The City Administrator and Grants Manager attended a meeting for the Municipal Collaboration Grant through MEA and DHCD to assist the residents in getting updates to appliances for their homes. This year they were awarded \$350,000. Last year Seat Pleasant submitted two applications, and the focus is on air infiltration. We do not have the applications, but the information will be in the next newsletter for May. They are income eligible statistic, complete a one-page application and provide your tax return. If you're not eligible for the program and you have asbestos, leaks and water infiltration, you will be referred to other agencies.
- The cash investment on hand can be found in the Finance Department Monthly Report.



- The police department had arrest in the reporting period and recovered guns in the business district.
- The Public Engagement Department attended the IBM Think Conference with Mayor Grant. Mayor Grant was highlighted to recognized on the build board in Las Vegas.
- The City of Seat Pleasant will be receiving an award for the mid-town category for the My Seat Pleasant App. Ms. Lipford will be receiving the reward on behalf of the City.
- We received two grants last month to update the Fun and Fitness Park, and the demolition of the property on MLK formerly referred to as the Gaskin Properties.

## **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **5.1. Approval of Council Rules and Procedures Handbook**

- City Clerk Lanham stated that the requested changes in the Handbook were completed in accordance to the Council recommendations.
- It was motioned by Councilmember and seconded by Councilmember Love to approve the Council Rules and Procedures Handbook. The motion carried and was unanimously approved.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.1. None**

## **7 CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Evelyn Drew, Seat Pleasant, MD, Ms. Drew had concerns about the traffic light at Eastern Avenue and MLK Highway and the crosswalks in the City.
- Kischenna Coley, Seat Pleasant, MD stated she submitted a complaint using the My Seat Pleasant App regarding her neighbor fence encroaching her property line. She stated that Mrs. Wallace sent a letter to the neighbor to correct the fence, but it's still a concern. She stated that the Code Enforcement did not require the contractor to use the correct survey to ensure that the fence on the property line. They hammered the fence on a tree at 605 62<sup>nd</sup> Pl. Ms. Coley stated that the App has sent an error message. Mayor Grant stated that when the complaint was received in the App, an immediate response stating that we had received the complaint, the police department responded and the City Administrator had sent a letter informing her that she needs to

address the neighbor, as the City could not address the issue. The Code Enforcement Officer had visited the site in response to the concern. Mayor Grant advised Ms. Coley that she will need to contact County regarding the permit and pay for a land survey of her property. The message that the App sends is in accordance to the type of device that is being used.

- Naomi Bowman-71<sup>st</sup> Ave., Seat Pleasant, MD stated that there is a pothole on 71<sup>st</sup> Avenue. Additionally, she received the US Census Form and would like to know if any other residents had received the form. Councilmember Sistrunk stated that she had received a form as well. Mayor Grant encouraged Ms. Bowman to download the My Seat Pleasant and report any concerns on the app oppose to waiting to the public meeting.
- Katrina Robinson-Addison Road, Seat Pleasant, MD stated that CPAC will be assisting the Police Department at Seat Pleasant Day this year. If anyone has concern that they want addressed, please see herself or Councilmember Sistrunk. They are planning a Neighborhood Watch Program that will take a while to come together. However, it is the goal for CPAC this year.
- Wilhelmina Evans-64<sup>th</sup> Ave., Seat Pleasant, MD stated that she wants everyone to continue to get along and invite Jesus in their hearts.
- Ketsha Brown, Weston Ave., Capitol Heights, MD stated that she works at the Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department as the Event Coordinator. The Hall Rental is now open for events.

## **8 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1. FY2018-2019 Budget Hearing, Saturday, April 14, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 10:00a.m.-11:30a.m.**
- 8.2. FY2018-2019 City Council Budget Review, Saturday, April 14, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 12:00p.m.-5:00p.m.**
- 8.3. Ward II & Ward V Monthly Meeting, Monday, April 16, 2018, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD from 9:30a.m.-11:30a.m.**
- 8.4. FY2018-2019 City Council Budget Review, Monday, April 23, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00p.m.**
- 8.5. Annual Seat Pleasant Day, Saturday, May 5, 2018, Parade from Goodwin Park at 11:00a.m., Activities at Seat Pleasant Elementary School from 12:00p.m.-6:00p.m.**

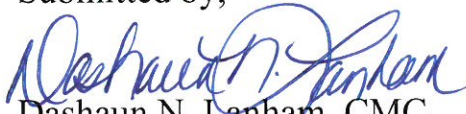
8.6. Regular Work Session, Monday, May 7, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00p.m.

8.7. Public Session, Monday, May 14, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 7:00p.m.

9. ADJOURN-

The Public Session meeting adjourned at 9:17p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC  
City Clerk

UNAPPROVED 3